REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 17, 22 and 24 (deemed to include allowable subject matter but objected to based on dependencies) are amended to be independent format; therefore, those claims are allowable. Reconsideration of the patentability of the remaining pending claims, in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 18 and 27-28 were rejected as being anticipated by Bradshaw Jr. (US Patent 6,608,820), claims 2, 5-6 and 19 were rejected as being unpatentable over Bradshaw in view of Yuen et al (US Patent 4,757,493; hereafter "Yuen"), claims 3-4 and 20-21 were rejected as being unpatentable over Bradshaw in view of Nowicki (US Patent 5,369,692), claim 7 was rejected as being unpatentable over Bradshaw in view of Ho et al (US 6,314,292; hereafter "Ho"), claims 8 and 10 were rejected as being unpatentable over Bradshaw in view of Fapojuwo (US 6,212,389), claims 9, 11-12, 23, and 26 were rejected as being anticipated by Bradshaw in view of Hubbard (US Patent 4,430,734), claims 13-14, 15-16 and 25 were rejected as being unpatentable over Bradshaw in view of Hubbard and further in view of Hoogerwerf et al. (U.S. 5,819,171) or Tuulos (U.S. 5,625,879).

Applicants traverse the rejections because the cited prior art fails to disclose, teach or suggest all the features recited in the rejected claims. For example, the cited prior art fails to disclose, teach or suggest "setting up any new call in an existing multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal," as recited in claims 1-14, 16 and 17, "setting up a new call in an existing multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and subscriber equipment," as recited in claim 15, "an arrangement for controlling a multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal," as recited in claims 18-26, or a "terminal being capable of having a multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal," as recited in claims 27 and 28.

Rather, Bradshaw merely discloses a method and apparatus for controlling multi-party conference calls. The Office Action incorrectly asserted that Bradshaw's 4-way conference call (between mobile stations 102, 104, 106 and 108) reads on the multicall of a subscriber terminal recited in the rejected claims. However, Bradshaw fails to disclose a multicall over a transmission path between a telecommunication network and subscriber terminal. Rather, Bradshaw merely teaches a single call having multiple parties which are connected together in a base station. More specifically, in Bradshaw, a base station 110 includes logic circuitry

110A for controlling and coordinating the conference call. Each conference call party, i.e., mobile stations 102, 104, 106 and 108, has an individual call to the control logic 110A in the base station 110, in which individual connections are connected to each other so that a conference call is established. One of the mobile stations, e.g., mobile station 102, can be the controlling party, which can modify the control information in the data base 110B in the base station 110 and thereby affect on the logic circuitry 110A to add parties or remove parties from the conference call.

To the contrary, in the claimed invention (as understood in the context of the specification), a multicall refers to two or more independent and simultaneous calls to/from a single mobile station (see for example, page 2 lines 2-4; page 6 lines 25-26). This is totally different from the conference call according to Bradshaw, in which each subscribe terminal has only one call to the network (i.e., to the base station 110).

Therefore, independent claims 1, 18 and 27-28 are patentable over Bradshaw.

Yuen fails to remedy the deficiencies of Bradshaw because Yuen merely discloses a multi-party conferencing apparatus applicable as the logic circuitry 110A in the base station 110 according to Bradshaw.

Moreover, Yuen fails to teach or suggest on the subject of multicalls. Although the Office Action referred to Yuen at column 1, lines 63-66 as allegedly teaching that the network makes a decision whether a new bearer is required or whether an existing bearer is to be used. However, that passage of Yuen actually relates to sampling the voice signals on conference channels received from the conference parties, and forwarding the samples from the highest amplitude voice signal to other conference call parties. Thus, that passage of Yuen, and Yuen as a whole do not teach or suggest on the subject of bearers in the network ; rather, Yuen's teachings are limited to the manner of how the voice signals from different conference call parties are mixed in an apparatus.

Accordingly, the combined teachings of Bradshaw and Yuen fail to teach or suggest the claimed setting up any new call in an existing multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and subscriber terminal, the claimed arrangement for controlling a multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal, or the claimed terminal being capable of having a multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal, as recited in independent claims 1, 18 and 27-28 and more particularly, rejected claims 2, 5-6 and 19.

Further, Nowicki fails to remedy the deficiencies of Bradshaw and Yuen because Nowicki merely discloses a system for conference calls among a plurality of stations connected by a single twisted-pair line. Thus, the combined teachings of Bradshaw, Yuen and Nowicki fail to teach or suggest the claimed setting up any new call in an existing multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and subscriber terminal, the claimed arrangement for controlling a multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal, or the claimed terminal being capable of having a multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal, as recited in independent claims 1, 18 and 27-28 and more particularly, rejected claims 3-4 and 20-21.

Moreover, Nowicki's conference call arrangement in a twisted-pair environment is not suitable for the wireless system according to Bradshaw. Thus, any modification of Bradshaw based on teachings of Nowicki would not have resulted in methods and devices for controlling multicall as recited in the present application.

Ho also fails to remedy the deficiencies of the other cited prior art because Ho merely discloses a method for reducing the call setup time of high priority calls. Although the Office Action cited Ho, column 6, lines 48-58, that passage is actually part of Ho's independent claim 7, which recites that a cellular system communication apparatus has two different-speed signaling channel types fl and f2. In fact, Ho's apparatus comprises a plurality of base transceiver stations operably interconnected to at least one mobile switching center. The apparatus further comprises first means for receiving channel request from mobile stations wishing to communicate with m other communication unit. In Ho, in response to a channel request from the mobile station, the apparatus supplies a default signaling channel assignment of type fl. Thus, Ho teaches always assigning the same type of signaling channel to a mobile station as a first step of a call setup.

However, Ho fails to teach or suggest a multicall of an individual mobile station, and a decision that a dedicated bearer is allocated to the new call by a default by the network if the user does not indicate in the call setup any existing bearer to be used. Thus, the combined teachings of Bradshaw, Yuen, Nowicki and Ho fail to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed the claimed setting up any new call in an existing multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and subscriber terminal, the claimed arrangement for controlling a multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal, or the claimed terminal being capable of having a

multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal, as recited in independent claims 1, 18 and 27-28 and more particularly, rejected claim 7.

Further, Fapojuwo fails to remedy the deficiencies of the other cited prior art references because Fapojuwo merely relates to a method for controlling allocation of traffic channels in a telecommunication network having macro cells and micro cells within the macro cells. More specifically, column 8, lines 6-10 of Fapojuwo merely teaches that, if there is no free channel at the micro cell for an incoming call and the call service type is determined to be an existing call which is requesting a micro cell-to-micro cell handoff, the local channel manager sends a channel assignment request to a global channel manager GCM; as a result, Fapojuwo teaches that the handoff is made from a micro cell to a macro cell.

However, that handoff between cells has nothing to do with changing a call of a multicall from a shared bearer to a new dedicated beam. Thus, the combined teachings of Bradshaw, Yuen, Nowicki, Ho and Fapojuwo fail to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed the claimed setting up any new call in an existing multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and subscriber terminal, the claimed arrangement for controlling a multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal, or the claimed terminal being capable of having a multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal, as recited in independent claims 1, 18 and 27-28 and more particularly, rejected claims 8 and 10.

Further, Hubbard fails to remedy the deficiencies of the other cited prior art references because Hubbard merely discloses a de-multiplexer circuit, which extracts from an incoming time division multiplex digital bit stream any combination of PCM encoded words, for enabling conference calls. More specifically, Hubbard discloses a multiplexer circuit which can be utilized for connecting multiple voice signals into one signal in a conference call.

However, column 7, lines 30-32 of Hubbard, and Hubbard taken as a whole, has nothing to do with setting up a new call on a new bearer.

Thus, the combined teachings of Bradshaw, Yuen, Nowicki, Ho, Fapojuwo and Hubbard fail to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed the claimed setting up any new call in an existing multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and subscriber terminal, the claimed arrangement for controlling a multicall over the transmission

path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal, or the claimed terminal being capable of having a multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal, as recited in independent claims 1, 18 and 27-28 and more particularly, rejected claims 9, 11, 12, 23, and 26.

Finally, neither Hoogerwerf nor Tuulos remedy the deficiencies of the other cited prior art references. Thus, the combined teachings of any and all of the cited prior art fail to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed the claimed setting up any new call in an existing multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and subscriber terminal, the claimed arrangement for controlling a multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal, or the claimed terminal being capable of having a multicall over the transmission path between the telecommunications network and the subscriber terminal, as recited in independent claims 1, 18 and 27-28.

In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims are allowable and that the entire application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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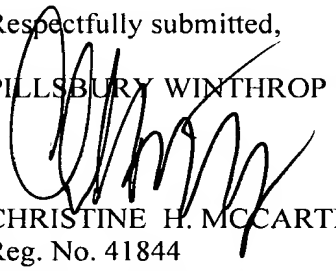

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